## LITERATURE CITED

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## The Entomologist's Record

To encourage the publication of concise and useful new distribution records, corrections of previously published erroneous records, misidentifications, short field notes, and current news items about entomologists, amateur and professional, entomology departments and museums, prompt (monthly) publication is offered in this department.

A Geometrid Moth Hitherto Unrecorded from the United States.—On April 15, 1966, I took two females of a moth unknown to me at light in the hardwood hammock on Key Largo, Florida. They seemed to belong to the subfamily Sterrhinae of the family Geometridae. The moths had a wingspan of about one-half inch, and had a striking forewing pattern of light olive green with a dull scarlet median band; the hindwing was concolorous whitish. Although I kept them alive for oviposition, no eggs were laid.

Later that year I received from Mr. Charles P. Kimball of Sarasota, Florida, a series of 35 males and 13 females of this species, all from Key Largo. He was unable to identify them, and had received them too late for mention in his *Lepidoptera of Florida* (1965).

In attempting to learn if this were an undescribed species, I sent specimens to Mr. D. S. Fletcher of the British Museum. He identified the species as Acratodes oblinataria Möschler, described from Puerto Rico. Furthermore, he found that the Florida material compared favorably with the subspecies scintillans Warren, described from British Guiana. A third name applied to the species is aberration fasciata Prout, of which Caracas, Venezuela, is the type locality. The three names seem to reflect slight differences in maculation, especially expression of the median band. Some variation in this band was seen in the series before me, indicating a possible source of confusion; however, none of the Florida specimens have the band almost wanting, as is the case with some neotropical specimens in the National Museum of Natural History. The species is widely distributed in South America and the Caribbean area, although its full range and life history are not recorded.

The specimens sent by Kimball were all but one taken by Mrs. Spencer Kemp in 1965 and 1966 in every month except March, May, and September; however, *oblinaturia* can probably be found on Key Largo throughout the year. The other specimen is the earliest known from Florida, taken by H. V. Weems, Jr., July 20, 1962. These specimens are in the Kimball collection.

Acratodes oblinataria should be placed in the McDunnough Check List (1938) after Xystrota davisi Grossbeck (p. 143, No. 4137). Until revisionary studies clarify the correct generic placement of oblinataria, it should be left in Acratodes (as used by L. B. Prout in Part 61 of Lepidopterorum Catalogus, 1934). McDunnough listed in Xystrota the North American species ascribed by Prout to Acratodes, and probably would have included oblinataria in Xystrota as well.



Acratodes oblinataria Möschler, female; taken at Key Largo, Florida, April 15, 1966. Wingspan 16 mm.

It seems strange to me that this species was not discovered in Florida by earlier workers. Perhaps its colonization of Key Largo is very recent, and that it was brought in on the winds of a hurricane. More probably it was simply missed, possibly due to lack of collecting on Key Largo. It seems well entrenched now, although the subtropical hardwood hammock on northern Key Largo is doomed to clearance for development in a few years. Sad to say, this species may become extinct in Florida almost before its presence was discovered.

I wish to thank D. S. Fletcher and C. P. Kimball for their assistance.—Charles V. Covell, Jr., University of Louisville, Kentucky 40208.

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